

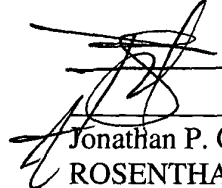
**REMARKS**

Please reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Claims 1-13, 15-16, and 18-19 were cancelled in this reply in accordance with the claims allowed in the parent application. Further, claims 14 and 17 have been amended from their original version to conform them to amendments made in the parent case. No new matter has been added.

The Applicant believes this paper to place this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 04558/046002).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 9/4/2003

 #45,079  
Jonathan P. Osha, Reg. No. 33,986  
ROSENTHAL & OSHA L.L.P.  
1221 McKinney, Suite 2800  
Houston, TX 77010

Telephone: (713) 228-8600  
Facsimile: (713) 228-8778